300576

The People's Korea

No. 934 EVERY WEDNESDAY MARCH 21, 1979

3rd Round Contact Held between North, South Liaison Officers

The third contact between the liaison representatives of the side of the north and liaison representatives of the side of the south for the formation of the preparatory committee for national reunification was held at the conference room of the Neutral Nations Supervisory Commission at Panmunjom from 10 on the morning of March 14, according to a KCNA report from Panmunjom.

Present at the contact were representative of the Workers' Party of Korea Kwon Min Jun, vice-director of a department of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Korea, and three other representatives acting on behalf of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland.

Representative Kwon Min Jun of our side spoke at the contact.

He stated that he would put forth the opinion of our side to advance the bilateral dialogue, taking into consideration the seriousness of the present difficulty facing the contact between the liaison representatives of the two sides and in view of the urgent necessity to take steps for overcoming it.

He said:

The side of the south turned up at the contact between the liaison representatives in response to our proposal. But it did not show an honest stand toward the dialogue from the first day and, going against the great desire of the nation, cast down over the contact which made a new start after so much efforts. Noting that the solution of even the elementary moral standard of the dialogue, that of the south man made an extremely unilateral and arbitrary argument about the "capacity of representative" which can hardly be worth consideration at the contact between the liaison representatives of the north and the south, he pressed for the unjustness of the argument, explaining reasons one by one.

He said: Firstly, the side of the south should respect the capacity of representative of the initiator and has no ground whatsoever to argue about it, since it turned up at the contact in response to our proposal to hold contact between liaison representatives.

Proposing contact between liaison representatives, we, as a proposer, announced to the world the list of liaison representatives to clarify on whose behalf a liaison representative of our side works.

Therefore, as for the capacity of representatives it is us, the proposer, not the side of the south, that should argue whether the representatives of the opposing side have the same capacity as ours or not.

Secondly, as for the capacity of representative, the side of the south is questionable, he noted, and said:

As the side of the south raised this question, we are compelled to point out that its representatives carrying the signboard of the coordination committee are, in fact, not qualified to be an opposite party to the new contact between liaison representatives.

At the new contact the side of the south turned up inviting the logo of the defunct coordination commission and tries to put the same cloak on the opposite side. We cannot but say this is outrageous, indeed.

Thirdly, it is entirely just that the liaison representatives of our side act on behalf of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland. There is no ground to take issue with this.

Explaining with historic instances what character the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland has and how authentic and responsible organ it is, he reminded the side of the south of the fact that the contact between the liaison representatives of the two sides was arranged at its initiative.

We should not waste precious time in arguing about the name of representation but remove by all means the obstacle lying before us to live up to the nation's ardent desire for the reunification of the country and meet halfway, making mutual concessions to successfully advance and bring to a conclusion the precious contact between the liaison representatives which has already made a start, it stressed.

He said:

Though we know that the assertions of the side of the south are unreasonable, we, proceeding from the above-mentioned stand, put forward the following new proposal with a sole desire for the success of the dialogue and for the country's reunification and the nation:

Firstly, we the side of the north will not use the name of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland when calling our liaison representatives on condition that the liaison representatives of the side of the south do not claim the representatio of the coordination commission now defunct.

Secondly, the name of the liaison representatives of our side will be the "liaison elegation of the political parties, public organizations and authorities" of the north side or the south side.

Thirdly, in conformity with the new appellation of the liaison representatives, the liaison delegation of the north side shall be composed of the present representative of the Workers' Party of Korea, representative of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland and representative of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the appellation and composition of the liaison representatives of the south side be commensurate to them.

Fourthly, considering that all the proposals advanced and steps taken by our side since January 23, 1979, are valid as ever on the basis of the recognition that the above-mentioned steps shall not have an essential influence on the already started contact between the liaison representatives, the two side shall confirm the stand on normalizing the contact between the liaison representatives which has already made a new start and confirm its original mission to discuss and solve the problem of forming the reparatory committee for national reunification.

Noting that this proposal of our side is an expression of desire and sincerity to advance by the two sides from a new stance the north-south dialogue arranged with so much efforts, he stressed: It can be said that full consideration is given to the view of the south side, too, in the new proposal.

In the belief that the side of the south will answer our sincerity with sincerity, we express the hope that it will willingly accept the new proposal we advanced, taking its opinion into consideration, he said.

Far from hastily responding to the new epochal propose of our side, the side of the south brought forward such an absurd problem as the "contact between working-level representatives" in an attempt to replace the already started contact between the liaison representatives with it. And it put forth again the problem of the coordination commission and tried to slander us by unreasonably connecting it with the July 4 joint statement.

In reply to this, our side reclarified our view on the correlation between the north-south coordination commission and the July 4 joint statement.

Kwon Min Jun, representative of our side, stated:

As for the July 4 joint statement, its keynote is the three principles of national reunification—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity.

It was these noble idea and principles that gave birth to the coordination commission and to the establishment and to other agreed points. It can be said, therefore, that the non-existence of the coordination commission does not mean the non-existence of nullification of the idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement.

The idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement are the crystal of the national desire, the will of all the fellow countrymen wanting after reunification and the firm foundation of national reunification which enjoys unanimous support at home and abroad.

They exist as ever, no matter whether there is the coordination commission or not.

As for the disease of the coordination commission, he said, the responsibility for it rests entirely with the south Korean side.

(Continued on page 2)

The third contact held between the liaison representatives of the north(left) and south (right) in Panmunjom on March 14. (KCNA Radiophoto)

Pyongyang's New Proposal

FIRSTLY, we the side of the north will not use the name of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland when calling our liaison representatives on condition that the liaison representatives of the side of the south do not claim the representation of the coordination commissions now defunct.

SECONDLY, the name of the liaison representatives of each side shall be the "liaison delegation of the political parties, public organizations and authorities" of the north side or the south side.

THIRDLY, in conformity with the new appellation of the liaison representatives, the liaison delegation of the north shall be composed of the present representative of the Workers' Party of Korea, representative of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland and representative of the Government of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea and the appellation and composition of the liaison representatives of the south side be commensurate to them.

FOURTHLY, considering that all the proposals advanced and steps taken by our side since January 23, 1979, are valid as ever on the basis of the recognition that the above-mentioned steps shall not have an essential influence on the already started contact between the liaison representatives, the two sides shall confirm the stand on normalizing the contact between the liaison representatives which has already made a new start and confirm its original mission to discuss and solve the problem of forming the reparatory committee for national reunification.

Foreign Leaders Favor Pyongyang's Reunion Proposal

President Tito

President Josip Broz Tito of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia expressed on May, 9 his support to the Korean reunification when he met Vice-Premier and Foreign Minister Ho Dam on a visit to Yugoslavia.

Saying that the world was following with keen interest the contact for north-south dialogue in Korea, President Tito pointed out that the Pyongyang government at people friendly supported the Korean people's cause of national reunification.

The joint information dated Mar. 10 on the visit of the DPRK government delegation to Yugoslavia said:

The Yugoslav side expressed solidarity with the Korean people's struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country and voiced full support to the new proposals for national reunification put forward by which is the convocation of the wholenation congress.

The DPRK government delegation headed by Ho Dam paid an official goodwill visit to the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from Mar. 6-10 on the invitation of the Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

Norwegian Prime Minister

Norwegian Prime Minister Odvar Nordli Mar. 2 hailed the recent Pyongyang's steps for the reunification in his talks with Kim Dong Ryu, the DPRK ambassador to Norway.

Referring to the problem of Korean reunification, the prime minister said that the recent steps taken by the DPRK showed its sincere efforts to solve the Korean problem peacefully.

He continued:

The reunification of Korea is a problem related to peace in Korea and the world.

We pay deep attention to the problem of the peaceful reunification of Korea and hope that it will be settled in the interests of the entire Korean people through the north-south dialogue.

Danish Prime Minister

Anker Henrik Joergensen, Prime Minister of Denmark and Chairman of the Central Committee of the Social Democratic Party of Denmark expressed the hope that a great progress would be made in the dialogue between the north and south of Korea for the Korea reunified peacefully.

This remarks was made on Mar. 7 when he met the delegation of the Workers' Party of Korea headed by Kim Gwan Sop on a visit to his country.

Belgian Foreign Minister

Belgian Foreign Minister Henri Simonet on Feb. 21 expressed support to the Korean people's cause of national reunification in his reply to an open letter made public by the Belgian Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification in connection with the statement of the CC of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland of the DPRK.

In the reply he said that the Belgian government was closely following the present developments in Korea and would support any initiative helpful towards promoting the north-south dialogue for the peaceful reunification of Korea. (KCNA)

Rodong Sinmun Warns U.S. Not to Hinder Korean Reunification

PYONGYANG, March 15 (KCNA) —Rodong Sinmun (organ of the CC of the WPK) today runs a commentator's article under the headline "United States Must Not Hinder Peaceful Solution of Korean Question."

The article reads in full:

The "U.N. command" in south Korea recently presented to the U.N. Security Council an "annual report" on the military situation on the Korean Peninsula.

In an attempt to justify its occupation of south Korea and a plot of Korean agression, the U.S. made the U.S. command it keeps in south Korea under the name of the "United Nations" fabricate and submit a "report" every year to the United Nations. Though nobody paid attention to this document full of lies and fabrications, the United States has repeated this practice as a routine event. The "report" of the "U.N. command" is nothing but a forgery reversing black and white, as worthless as the "annual report" of the "U.N. Commission for the Unification and Rehabilitation of Korea" which was ridiculed and cold-shouldered by the people in the north.

The "report" presented to the United Nations by the U.S. is full of slanders against us with such lies that we "violated" the armistice agreement and drag "tension".

These lies, however, will convince nobody.

As the whole world knows, it is one either side or the other side that violates the armistice agreement in Korea.

In the past one year alone, the United States violated the armistice agreement over 23,600 times in south Korea.

Though the United States is talking about "peace" in Korea, it, in actuality, is engaged in acts of undermining peace.

Behind the facade of "troop pullout," it is reinforcing its forces and drastically expanding its air force in particular in south Korea, introducing more and more equipment and building and expanding military bases there.

Under the pretext of "compensatory measures" to offset the "phaseout" it is transferring to south Korea a colossal amount of sophisticated weapons and military equipment and reinforcing the south Korean armed forces.

It set up the South Korea-U.S. combined forces command" in south Korea and organized and staged a "multilateral" war with huge U.S. ground naval and air forces in the Asian and Pacific region and kept it on a constant alert to send it to Korea at any moment.

Having turned south Korea into a nuclear base and military arsenal base where aggression forces are concentrated, the United States is continuously holding war exercises against us.

It staged the massive "south Korean-U.S. joint military exercise" codenamed "Team Spirit '79" against us last year with the mobilization of huge armed forces over 100,000 strong, sophisticated weapons and military equipment. It is now holding again the war exercise dubbed "Team Spirit '79," "largest in history" by mobilizing 170,000 U.S. and south Korean troops from March 1, that very date when the ice melts on the stepage of hostile military actions.

Nobody can say that this is for "peace" in Korea.

The hostile acts of the United States in massin: armed forces in south Korea and its surrounding areas and setting p a military operational system in south Korea against us only increase tension in Korea, frighten us by strength and endanger peace in asia.

The United States which is stepping up preparations for war is a sure violation of the armistice agreement in Korea among others and a criminal and maliciously slanders others.

The United States is now perpetrating one of a saying that a thief cries stop thief.

As for the "tunnel" incident about which the United States is now talking even in the United Nations, it is a drama designed to camouflage its aggressive acts.

It is a favorite tactics employed by the United States each time it commits an aggressive act to fabricate incidents for feeding public opinion and diverting elsewhere the attention of the people.

What on earth have the "tunnels" in the area under the military control of the United States to do with us?

The United States forged a document full of lies and fabrications to speak ill of us, while reinforcing armed forces and hastening war preparations in south Korea. This aims to obstruct the reunification of Korea, not renouncing a wild design on her, perpetuate the division of Korea and Korean" and keep a hold on south Korea.

The side of the United States goes against the desire of our people and the world peaceloving people who want to see peace preserved in Korea and the Korean question solved in a peaceful way.

New contact for the peaceful settlement of the reunification question has started in Korea between the north and south reflecting the ardent desire of our people and the world people. The world hopes it that progress will be made on the road of peaceful reunification through new dialogue between the north and south. For the progress of the dialogue tension must be removed, mistrust and misunderstandings between the north and south dispelled and a climate of national reconciliation created in Korea.

To create a climate of national reconciliation, we proposed to confirm the idea and principles of the July 4 joint statement and discontinue slanders and military actions and are making sincere efforts for early realisation, taking practical steps.

The ongoing military exercise of the United States and south Korea and their continued madcinging are no bacloud the climate of dialogue. The United States clashes it by fabricating the so-called "annual report" of the "U.N. command" full of lies. What is this if not an encouragement to the act of marring the climate of dialogue? It is nothing but an act creating an obstacle to the dialogue and hurting the solution of the reunification question, contrary to its talk about "welcoming" the dialogue.

The "annual report" of the "U.N. command" clearly shows once again that the U.N. command unscrupulously with the signboard of the "U.N." is a tool for Korean aggression and the United States must stop manoeuvring to lastify its policy of occupying south Korea and hiding behind of "U.N." such foolish act only by the United States.

The U.S. troops' occupation of south Korea is the main factor violating the national sovereignty of our people and the biggest obstacle threatening peace in Korea and Asia and blocking the reunification of our country.

The U.S. troops' occupation of south Korea is the main factor violating the national sovereignty of our people and the biggest obstacle threatening peace in Korea and Asia and blocking the reunification of our country.

The U.S. troops' occupation of south Korea is the main factor violating the national sovereignty of our people and the biggest obstacle threatening peace in Korea and Asia and blocking the reunification of our country.

The U.S. troops occupation of south Korea is a tool for Korean aggression and is unlawful basis of the U.N. command.

The U.S. troops' occupation of south Korea is the main factor violating the national sovereignty of our people and the biggest obstacle threatening peace in Korea and Asia and blocking the reunification of our country.

The U.S. troops' occupation of south Korea is the main factor violating the national sovereignty of our people and the biggest obstacle threatening peace in Korea and Asia and blocking the reunification of our country.

The U.S. troops

New Upsurge in Economic Growth

This year, the second year of the Second Seven-Year Plan, is an important year in the DPRK in which a new turn must be brought about in all social-economic construction through a general mobilization of the whole party and the entire people.

The central task of socialist economic construction this year is to make an effective use of the existing economic fixed-assets to increase production to the maximum and increase the people's livelihood remarkably, while vigorously pushing the Juche-orientation modernization and scientification of the national economy.

Upholding the new year address of Premier Kim Il Sung, Korean workers and people are now making a general onward upsurge, after taking giant strides from the fight battle to successfully carry out the national economic plan for this year.

The Korean working class fulfilled the industrial production plan for January this year at 121 per cent in terms of value. As a result, the industrial output jumped 36 per cent above that in the like period last year.

By giving precedence to the mining industry the Korean working people continue boosting the coal and ore output. Those in the metal, engineering, building materials and other key industries are operating all equipment at full capacity, normalization production on a high level. A high speed is being created particularly in the production of rolled steel, cement, machine tools, synthetic fibre, fertilizers and equipment, lorries, tractors and cargo boats.

Now the working people are striving to maintain the economic growth rate attained in January, which is 36 per cent higher than that in the same period last year.

Heavy Industry

Many factories and enterprises carried out their February plans ahead of schedule, as of February 25.

The February plans were overfulfilled at the General Bureau of Coal Industry and at the Chugang, North Hwanghae and South Pyongan provincial nonferrous ore mining management bureaus in the domain of the mining industries which guarantees the Juche-orientation of the economy.

Coal and ore mines in different parts carried out their daily assignments at over 150-200 per cent by givin definite priority to earth-scooping and tunnelling.

In particular, the Anju, Kaechon and Kowan District coal mining complexes shortly boosted the coal output as against January.

The workers of the Ryongsong Machine Tool Works mastered in January and February their first mission year plan on all indices as of Feb. 17.

Machine plants in different parts of the country also announced the prescheduled fulfilment of their February plans.

The Kim Jong Tae Electric Locomotive Factory carried out its February plan at 100.2 per cent as of February 25.

Coal and ore mining machine plants under the Mining Industry Commission have increased their output 15 per cent above the corresponding period last year.

For the two months of January and February alone the coal and ore mines have installed 300 big and small highly efficient rock drills, 50 per cent more mechanized stope supports and different types of loading ma hines and 60-100 new conveyers, more electric cars and lobs than in the same period last year. More winches, chain conveyors, crushers and various other efficient machines were also supplied.

Highly efficient drum coal cutters are produced in great quantities to strengthen the coal mines in the Anju District Coal Mining Complex.

The DPRK has many large modern coal and ore mining machine plants.

President Kim Il Sung put forward the wise policy of making mining equipment more modern and high-speed one and diversifying transport operations and energetically directed the machine plants through the country to actively serve the technical revolution in the mining industry.

As a result, highly efficient large-size machines and equipment were sent to the coal and ore mines and modern meant of transport and loading and unloading facilities to the tram-port pits and large excavators, 300 h.p. bulldozers and heavy-duty lorries were supplied to the opencast sites. With the establishment of the system of production commenced by telemechanical processes are geared squarely to each other in the deep underground pits as in production processes on the ground.

The living standards of the people is getting higher and higher with the rapid economic growth in the DPRK.

Light Industry

The textile output has been on the steady rise.

The Pyongyang Textile Combine, one of the biggest of its kind in the country, in 1978 turned out 90 quota-ty yarn, fabrics and towels at 106 to 129 per cent.

In January it topped its monthly plan, set much higher than that in the same period last year, by 15 per cent in terms of industrial production value as of the 25th and successfully fulfilled its assignments of all indices.

The textile workers' vanguard unit of Pyongyang Textile Combine this year, which is home of the central tasks of socialist economic construction to radically raise the living standards of the people, the target fixed for the country hit the first monthly plan on the 27th and has been incessantly boosting production in February.

Now the textile workers are expanding the patriotic and mutual-aid socialist emulation movement on a massive scale, while accelerate more energetically the work of introducing high-speed and modern equipment.

Agriculture

Preparations for this year's farming are now in full swing in the rural villages of Korea. The co-operative farmers are aflame with the fiery determination of Korean agricultural working people to reap a bumper harvest again this year.

They are hurrying with the production of dressed soil, transport of manure to the fields and other work, setting themselves the goal to produce more grain this year.

Last year they made thoroughgoing preparations and did all farm work in time to bring in rich crows.

Especially successful in last year's farming were north and south Hamgyong Provinces in the northern part of the east coast area where damages by fog and cold were serious.

Last year Sunbyol, Onsong and Unbok counties located along the River Tumun-gang increased their grain output nearly 1.5 times as against the previous year.

Rajin City and many counties of North Hamgyong Province boosted the per-hectare rice yield by more than 1.2-1.8 tons and Hochon county of South Hamgyong Province raised the per-hectare maize yield by over 1.4 tons last year above the 1977 figures.

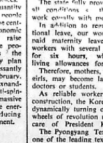
These successes were achieved by thoroughly applying the Juche-based farming method created by President Kim Il Sung.

Under his correct guidance Korean agricultural working people did farming in recent years on a scientific and technical basis, as required by the Juchebased farming method, to steadily increase grain output.

Rapid growth was made continuously to produce over 700,000 more tons of grain in 1975 than in 1974, surpass the 8 million ton mark in 1976 and reach the 8.5 million ton mark in 1977.

Korea attained complete self-sufficiency in food long ago with a large stock of food grains.

Happy Korean Working Women



The Korean women are working to the best of their ability in all realms of social life, political, economic and cultural.

In addition to regular and additional leave, our women are given paid maternity leave and women workers with several children work for six hours, while receiving living allowances for the whole hour.

Therefore, mothers, like unmarried girls, may become labour heroes, doctors or students.

As reliable workers for socialist construction, the Korean women are dynamically turning one of the two wheels of revolution under the deep care of President Kim Il Sung.

The Pyongyang Textile Combine, one of the leading textile production bases of the DPRK, is a typical instance.

The President gave on-the-spot guidance to the combine scores of times and showed deep care for the work and life of working mothers and provided them with all conditions so that they could work free from save worries.

He visited the combine in January 1953, when the arduous war was still under way and instructed that furnishings of its nursery should be unexceptionally cozy so that the workin- mothers to work free from worries even in the wartime. Later, he sent toys, instruments and various other goods for babies to the nursery.

He visited the combine again in April 1954 when the whole country was seething with the postwar rehabilitation and construction and indicated the direction of the rebuilding of the combine. He said that the female workers should work for many years at the combine as its masters. Noting that the combine's nurseries should be expanded in the future so that working mothers could work free from worries. He solved in a farsighted way problems arising in the work with weavers, masters 11- charge of production, with mothers in particular.

After that the President frequently visited the combine and showed deep solicitude for the work and life of the women workers as he did during the war and early in the postwar period, and instructed that nurseries, kindergartens and babies' ward should be built on and th- weekly nursery run properly. He was on-hour machines as the question of sendin- mothers to the correspondence courses of colleges, their commutation, supply of subsidiary food to them and even the home life of women.

Today commuters' buses sent by the President bring the workers home to and from the combine. Most of them are members of mothers' workteams and receive additional supplies from the state.

There are nearly 20 nurseries and kindergartens as well as a weekly nursery and weekly kindergarten in the combine. And it has a babies' ward, a flats breading ground for children and all welfare service facilities. Under the deep care of President Kim Il Sung many labour heroines emerged from among them and female workers once weavers are now successfully running and managing the combine as workshop managers or part; functionaries.

Women in the DPRK can work equally to men without worrying about household work.

World Public Denounce "Team Spirit '79"

World public circles, organizations and newspapers are continuously demanding immediate end to criminal joint military exercise of the U.S. and south Korea.

☆

Finnish writer and journalist Olavi Linnus recently made public a talk. He said: The news of the contact between the liaison representatives of the north and the south for Korean reunification delights the peace-loving people and progressive personages of the world.

Recently the Democratic People's Republic of Korea advanced a proposal that the north and south of Korea form a unified team to participate in the 35th World Table Tennis Championships.

This glaringly shows that the DPRK is making every effort for national harmony and unity and faithfully keeping its pledge. We hope this proposal will be realized without fail.

Herbert Steiner, Chairman of the Austrian Association for Promotion of Relations with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea recently made public a press statement.

Setting that the DPRK has best much efforts all along for the peaceful reunification of the country, he stressed:

Our association warmly hails the north-south dialogue which will contribute to the peaceful reunification of the Korean nation.

The Gamb'an National YouthCouncil sent a letter to the U.S. President protesting against the U.S.-south Korean joint military exercise.

It said that at a time when the DPRK advanced the new four-point proposals for the reunification of the country and was making all efforts for their realization, the United States and south Korea started an unprecedented large-scale joint military exercise, giving rise to surging indignation among the world's people.

We consider that this military exercise is an open mockery of the Korean people and the world's peace-loving people who ardently desire peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification and cannot grave threat to peace and security in Asia and the world.

The Committee in Solidarity with the Korean People in New York and the "U.S.-Out-of-Korea Committee" of **the Youth against War and Fascism** sent letters respectively to the U.S. President and the person in south Korean authority, sharply denouncing the criminal "south Korea-U.S. joint military exercise" and strongly demanding its immediate discontinuation.

Referring in detail to the scale of the joint military exercise, the resolution said:

The military exercise is fraught with the danger of becoming a blast-ing-fuse of a big war which will embrace the whole of Korea.

Even "Lance" missiles are mobilized in the exercise, and as Japanese people, victims of atomic bombs, we cannot tolerate this.

The war exercise threw a wet blanket over the south-north dialogue arranged with much efforts. This is a dangerous military exercise obstructing the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea.

In its statement dated March 1, **the Italian Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification** stressed: The south Korea-U.S. joint military exercise" poses a threat which may wreck the dialogue between the north and south of Korea.

It said:

The large-scale joint military exercise now staged by the United States and south Korea is a challenge to the Korean people and the world people and creates a new graver tension in the Asian region.

The Italian Committee for Supporting Korea's Reunification protests to this grave act, the contempt interference of the United States in the internal affairs of Korea.

The Italian National Peace Committee in its March 1 statement resolutely opposed the south Korean military attempt to frustrate the contact between the north and south of Korea and hoped that the Korean people would achieve reunification on the principle of national self-determination.

It appealed to all countries and democratic governments to direct attention to the desire of the Korean people.

We vehemently denounce the "south Korean-U.S. joint military exercise" and declare that the south Korean side show an honest attitude toward the south-north talks for the in ependent and peaceful reunification of Korea, he said the statement corresponded to **the Pakistan-Korea Friendship Association** in his March 4 statement denouncing the "south Korean-U.S. joint military exercise."

Recalling that the large-scale "south Korea-U.S. joint military exercise" was launched in south Korea at a time when the prospect for the peaceful reunification of Korea opened, the statement said:

This is an international perfidy of the south Korean authorities. The Democratic People's Republic of Korea making sincere efforts for national reunification and a wanton challenge to the whole Korean nation.

This also shows that the United States is stepping up its manoeuvres against peace in Korea and her peaceful reunification.

The Latin American and Caribbean Committee for Korean Peaceful Reunification issued a statement on March 2 in connection with the U.S.-south Korean joint military exercise.

Noting that the U.S.-south Korean joint military exercise poses a potential menace to peace not only in Korea but als- in Asia, the statement said:

At a time when the Democratic Republic of Korea is making every effort to achieve the reunification of Korea, this manoeuvre staged by the U.S. and the south Korean authorities is a wanton challenge to the desire of the Korean people for reunification.

The Latin American people oppose this provocation should be stopped at once.

Our committee fully supports the policy of national reunification put forward by you the great leader Marshal Kim Il Sung and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea.

The Soviet Paper "Pravda" March 1 carried a commentary entitled "Impossible Play," lashing at the U.S.-south Korean moves to frustrate reunification on the principle of national self-determination.

The paper noted:

U.S. forces regularly stage joint military exercises with the south Korean army. This is an answer to the statement of the Central Committee of the DPRK Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland of March 1 proposing the holding of independent and peaceful reunification of Korea, the statement corresponded to the cessation of all hostile military actions against the opposing side.

It is well known how the U.S. defense circles responded to all peaceful initiative, the paper said, and stressed: This is clearly proved by the fact that the war going on in south Korea today.

The paper remarked: The Central Committee of the DPRK proposed to stop all hostile military actions against the opposing side on March 1. But on that very day began the start of the U.S. and south Korean troops started.

The Danish Paper "Land Og Folk" March 2 carried an article entitled "Intolerable Challenge to Peace."

Korean Book and Photo Exhibition Opens in Malta

A book and photo exhibition of the DPRK opened at the Parliament Building in Malta on March 2 with a large attic dance.

On display were many illustrated classic works of President Kim Il Sung and books and photographs showing his glorious and brilliant revolutionary history.

Also displayed were Korean books, photographs showing the successes made by the Korean people in the revolution and construction and their struggle for national reunification and pieces of handiwork exhibiting the resourcefulness and talents of the Korean people.

The opening ceremony was attended by Antoni Buttigieg, President of the Republic of Malta, and his wife, leading personages of the Government and the labour party, personages of various circles and a large number of people of all strata.

The President of the Republic of Malta cut the tape and made a brief speech of congratulation.

The act of south Korea and the United States is an intolerable challenge to the proposals of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea for peaceful reunification and a grave threat to peace in Asia and the world.

South Korea and the United States must not weave anot'er plot behind the curtain of dialogue, but stop at once the reckless military action and unconditionally respond to the sincere efforts of the DPRK for achieving the reunification of the country through dialogue, the paper stressed.

It said that the south Korean authorities and the United States must think twice over the consequences of the war exercise and bear full responsibility for a threat to peace in Korea an I a drag on the progress of the dialogue.

The U.S. paper "The Workers World" March 2 carried a article flaying the south Korean-U.S. joint military exercise." Noting that the United States is holding in south Korea a war exercise bigger ever since the Korean war, the paper said that the new provocation manoeuvres would only lead imperialism to a more serious defeat and crisis.

(Continued from page 1)

is recognized by the whole world, worthy of valuing and consolidating it, our side said: The stand of the south Korean side shows that it has no intention to continue the dialogue, but to engage for construct otherwise than a foul intention to rupture the bilateral contact.

The north side enshsalzed: Moreover, we announced that we would not use the name of the Democratic Front for the Reunification of the Fatherland and the side of the south said that it would not act in the name of the coordination commission at the current contact. Therefore, there is no problem insolvable at the contact between the liaison representatives.

Proceeding from an honest desire to continue the dialogue at any cost, our side said: If necessary, contact between working-level representatives proposed by the side of the south may be held. But, it must be made known at the contact between liaison representatives which a1 already started and became the door of dialogue between the two sides, or become different from it or stop it over.

Our side declared once again that to give up the contact between liaison representatives arranged with so much efforts and replace it with contact of a lower level, contact between working-level representatives, and attempt to move the dialogue backward, not forward, and further, to lead it to a rupture.

Showing the broad-minded and magnanimous stance that as long as the contact between the liaison representatives of the two sides continues, we may have a working-level contact lower than it or individual contact, the north side proposed for four hours that the contact between liaison representatives of the two sides should in accordance with the new proposals advanced by the north side.

Far from responding to our sincere attitude, the si e of the south insisted on giving up the contact between liaison representatives of the two sides which had been held three times and having only the so-called working-level contact.

Logically refuting the insincere assertion of the south side aimed at leading the lalogue to a rupture, our side repeatedly urged it to come to Panmunjom on April 5 for the fourth contact between liaison representatives as proposed by the north side at this contact between liaison representatives, if it has a genuine intention to continue the dialogue.

Recalling that since the publication of the joint statement of the side of the south, openly trampling underfoot the three principles of national reunification—independence, peaceful reunification and great national unity—has persiste' in the dependence upon outside forces and military confrontation, continued the suppression of the movement for peaceful reunification and, furthermore, pursued only the "two Koreas" policy, he declared: Owing to this, the coordination commission could not discharge its mission of translating into reality the idea and principles of the joint statement, its function was virtually paralized it became a meaningless existence.

He also recalled that the disgraceful case in which members of the side of the south to the coordination commission kidnapped the secretary-general of the coordination committee, he stressed:

Subsequently we had ten rounds of contact between liaison representatives to settle the situation but failed to gain a decisive result owing to the insincere attitude of the south Korean side and the coordination commission finally broke down, he said.

He stressed that the efforts of one side are not enough to normalize contact between the liaison representatives at an early date and discuss the basic problem, and urged the side of the south to make a deep study of our new epochal proposals and show a sincere answer at the next contact.

Our side proposed to the side of the south to have the fourth contact between the liaison representatives on April 5, but the side of the south unilaterally left the conference room, giving no answer.

Then an individual contact between the two sides took place on the spot.

At the individual contact the side of the south obstinately insisted on suspending the contact betwee i the liaison representatives of the two sides which was held three times and replacing it with the so-called "contact between working-level representatives."

Pointing out that the south Korean side opposes a deep study of the contact between the liaison representatives, which has failed to accomplish between the two sides and

Demand for Democracy, Reunification Gaining in Momentum

The south Koreans' demand for the restoration of democracy is gaining in momentum among the opposition parties and other strata, triggered by the publication of a new "declaration for democracy and national salvation." In the declaration issued by dissident leaders on Mar. 4 in Seoul, including the ex-"president," Yun Bo Son; Quaker leader Ham Sok Hon; and the former "presidential" candidate, Kim Dae Jung, they called for the establishment of a democratic government to serve the cause of national reunification.

Ex-"NDP" Leader

On Mar. 9 in a press conference, Kim Yong Sam, former chairman of the major opposition "New Democratic Party," stressed that democracy is essentially required for national reunification. For this purpose, he added, the "presidential emergency decrees" should be abrogated. Kim also urged his party not to comply with the "ruling party", in order to play its due role as a true opposition.

The former opposition leader met the press at the Kimpo international airport in the outskirts of Seoul on his return home from a month-long tour of the United States and Japan.

In a statement released at the press conference, Kim Yong Sam stressed that the goal set for national reunification urgently necessitates democracy in which public opinion can be reflected in that process.

Saying that the "Democratic-Republican government" should not turn away from the stern fact that voters had deserted the "ruling party" in the last general election, Kim demanded the "emergency decrees" be scrapped as early as possible for the sake of the generations to come.

He urged the "ruling party" to take into serious consideration the meaning of the last election in which it was placed second to the "New Democratic Party" in terms of votes garnered, an expression of non-confidence in the "government." He criticized the opposition party headed by Li Chol Sun for its pro-"government" posture.

On this critical juncture, Kim added, the "New Democratic Party" should be prepared to take over power as a responsible opposition party in response to the expectations of the nation and the trends of the times.

Paek Ki Wan

EARLIER, in a lecture meeting held in Chonju city on Mar. 5, a well-known south Korean thinker, Paek Ki Wan said that the conditions should be created so as to ensure free debate on the reunification issue.

Police arrested and detained Paek and his associate without a warrant on the eighth of March for his call for freedom at the meeting. This was revealed on the 14th by a report from Seoul.

In this connection, the "institute for the study of Paek Pom's thoughts," whose director is Paek Ki Wan, made public a statement protesting against the arrest of its director and his associate.

The statement said that authorities' act of preventing the democratic forces from discussing the reunification question, despite their promise to resume the north-south talks, is nothing but a grave threat to the independent, peaceful reunification of the divided country, and lays bare their insincere approach to the national cause.

Demanding the immediate release of the arrested, the statement declared that the institute will launch a campaign to set them free.

In his contribution to the monthly organ "Sial-ui Sori (People's Voice)," May, 1978, Paek maintained as follows:

"What kind of freedom do I have in mind?...Freedom from tension should be ensured for this divided nation. In addition, the freedom of speech to permit us to discuss at least the reunification issue. National reunification should be left to the entire nation. Especially, the people should decide the case, as it is only they that can represent the nation."

The "institute for the study of Paek Pom's thoughts" is devoted to the study of the thoughts of the late nationalist leader, Mr. Kim Gu, alias Paek Pom, who advocated peaceful negotiations between the north and the south and alliance with the Communists. Paek Ki Wan, as director of the institute, has also devoted himself to the cause of democracy in south Korea and of the independent and peaceful reunification of Korea. For his unyielding activity, he has so far been arrested and imprisoned frequently by the authorities.

South Korean dissidents, who gathered in a meeting held in Seoul on Aug. 8, 1978, chanted the abolition of "presidential emergency decrees" and the immediate release of "political prisoners."

Unfolding a street demonstration, Korean residents in the US called for the ouster of Pak Jung Hi, restoration of democracy in south Korea and national reunification.

Koreans in US, France

Korean residents in France called for democratic procedures with regard to north-south talks and the convocation of a Pyongyang-proposed all-nation congress.

The residents' "Society for Independent Reunification of Korea" in France on Mar. 1 issued a statement "Our Attitude toward the North-South Talks." Follow excerpts from it:

There is no change at all in our belief that the divided country should be reunified through talks between north and south. The rupture of the last bilateral talks, which had been realized as a result of the signing of the north-south joint statement, Jul. 4, 1972, gave us a bitter lesson how harmful such talks are to the nation, if held for the purpose of promoting self-interests, and not for the sake of reunification.

The Pak "regime", which cannot survive even for a moment without continuing tension on the peninsula and a constant war atmosphere, set up the "*yusin*" dictatorship to deceive the nation, as soon as an atmosphere of relaxation was created when arrangements were made for north-south talks.

Pak Jung Hi has persisted in maintaining the status quo in Korea, advocating the so-called "German way of reunification." He completely depends on the reactionary forces of Japan opposed to a reunified Korea, in a desperate bid to prolong his one-man rule. On top of this, Pak has not hesitated to jail a number of democrats devoted to the cause of national reunification, and execute many of them.

How on earth can we expect him to show real interest in the restoration of national entity?

The Pak "regime" is now extremely alarmed at the increasing relaxation of the international situation surrounding the Korean Peninsula as a result of the conclusion of the Sino-Japanese Peace and Amity Treaty and the normalization of Sino-American relations. At home, it is constantly exposed to an unpredictable crisis which may explode at any moment, because of widespread people's complaints over its "high-economic growth policy" and soaring prices, and their mounting demand for national reunification.

The ulterior intention of the Pak "regime" is to find a way out of this crisis, by diverting the people's attention from its misrule.

We must prevent Pak's vicious attempt. From this point of view, we consider that we should take the following attitude toward the renewed north-south talks:

1. Unless democracy is restored in south Korea, the talks to be held by the two sides will only serve Pak's trickery. First of all, the bilateral talks should be initiated by grass-roots. As a matter of due course, Pyongyang's proposal for a pan-national congress is acceptable to the entire nation.

2. In addition, the democratization of south Korea is a vital precondition for national reunification. This essentially requires that the "*yusin* system" be completely destroyed to its foundations. In concrete terms, necessary for this purpose are the abolition of the "*yusin* constitution," "national security law" "anti-communist law" and other repressive laws, the dissolution of the "KCIA" and, in a word, a democratic government devoted to the cause of national reunification.

3. But, it is unthinkable that Pak Jung Hi will accept the abovestated conditions as a whole. This means that his "regime" cannot become a party to the talks for reunification. The publication of this statement stems from our desire to expose the deceptive attempt of Pak Jung Hi regarding the bilateral talks before the world's people as well as the nation. The Pak "regime" must not repeat its past wrong attitude toward the previous talks in 1972 when it abused the talks to strengthen its dictatorship. This time, instead, the Pak "regime" must restore democracy in south Korea for the successful progress of the resumed talks.

A STATEMENT was also issued on Feb. 15 by the "National Federation for Democracy," an organisation of Korean residents in the United States.

The statement said in part:

The "National Federation for Democracy" in the U.S., devoted to the restoration of democracy in south Korea and the independent and peaceful reunification of the divided country, welcomes the talks between Pyongyang and Seoul

It is of great importance that the authorities should be prevented from pursuing partisan interests in the north-south talks and deceiving the nation and their counterparts in the bilateral talks For this purpose, proper initiatives should be taken by the people themselves, as it is their duty and right to do so. Success in the reunification talks, which is vital to the entire Koreans, will be possible only when not only officials but also representatives of people in all walks of life participate in the discussion.

A reunification forum to invite representatives of all parties and organizations interested in reunifying the country, and of personages devoted to accomplishing the goal, including political prisoners, can actually pave the way for eventual reintegration of the split nation in accordance with the principles contained in the north-south joint statement.

This is the only way to democracy desired by the partiotic people.

Any differences in the bilateral talks can be easily removed for the sake of the cause of national reunification, if national conscience and sincerity prevail in the talks

Wishing for progress in the reunification talks based on democracy, we will do everything in our power for successful talks.

We call upon all the democratic Korean groups at home and abroad and all fellow countrymen actively to participate in the movement for a reunified Korea, displaying their patriotic enthusiasm, talent and energy to the full.

Human Rights Report On S. Korea

(Continued from the previous issue)
3. Respect for Civil and Political Liberties, Including:

Freedom of Thought, Speech, Press, Religion and Assembly

Political liberties and freedom of expression are significantly circumscribed by EM-9, as described above. The measure prescribes prison terms of one to fifteen years for prohibited acts and gives the Government authority to close down universities, broadcasting stations, and newspapers and dismiss any member of their staff or administration. Although calling for trial by civil rather than military court, it permits arrest, detention, search, and seizure without warrant. The Department of State estimates that, since its promulgation, about 600 to 700 persons have been charged with violations of EM-9, although many more have been arrested and held for short periods of interrogation before being released.

The Anti-Communist Law of 1961 is a further restraint on civil liberties, particularly in the way it is applied. This law provides for imprisonment for not more than seven years for any person involved in the activities of "anti-state" organizations, including Communist organizations. In 1978, the trial and conviction under the Anti-Communist Law of a professor who had edited an anthology of articles on China by foreign writers, including prominent Americans, drew considerable domestic and foreign attention and criticism. In addition, the Korean National Assembly passed laws in 1975 making it a criminal offense to criticize the Government to foreigners and providing for political surveillance, limitations on residence, and preventive detention for former "anti-state" prisoners. The preventive detention measure was applied for the first time in May of 1978, when a prisoner convicted of espionage was not released upon the expiration of his prison term.

In 1978 the Government sought to avoid formal arrest, trial, and long-term detention of political dissidents, who for their part steppped up their political challenge. Instead, the Government used preventive tactics. In anticipation of challenges—especially from college students—security forces stepped up surveillance to frustrate efforts to mount demonstrations off campus or to undertake other political activities. Similarly, dissident activity which as recently as 1977 would have provoked court trials and stiff sentences was dealt with through questioning at police stations and temporary detention or house arrest lasting from a few hours to a week or two. Although these tactics spared many dissidents (despite their increased political activity) from the full weight of EM-9, the new policy gave them only limited opportunity to publicize their viewpoints. However, arrests, trials, and expulsions from universities, particularly of students who had organized and led demonstrations, continued to take place. Some faculty members also lost their positions, and a few were arrested when they protested these government actions against students.

Nevertheless, the press remains wary of what it prints, and periodicals were occasionally seized, as in the confiscation in September of a prominent intellectual monthly and suspension of its publication for three months. One foreign reporter was barred from entering the country in early 1978 as a result of writing articles which the Government considered consistently biased.

Missionaries of the Jehovah's Witnesses, however, found that, while they could work freely in Korea, new missionaries could not obtain entry permits, nor could resident missionaries be assured of re-entry permits if they left Korea. In 1978, one foreign missionary associated with Christian labor activists did not receive a renewal of his residence visa and therefore had to leave the country. Some clergymen and Christian laymen are critics of Government political, economic, and social policies, and consequently there is tension between the state and certain segments of the Christian community.

Freedom to Participate in the Political Process

Most effective power is centralized in the office of the President. He appoints the Prime Minister, the Cabinet, one-third (77 members) of the National Assembly, and all local government officials, and may suspend individual rights by emergency decree.

The Government maintains extensive domestic intelligence nets, which at once inhibit freedom of expression and supply reports of discontent and criticism.

Low wages and long working hours remain continuing problems, particularly in smaller, marginal companies. Labor conditions in such companies have drawn sharp attacks from foreign and Korean social critics,...As part of their social ministry, a few Methodist ministers have attempted, through their Urban Industrial Mission, to organize textile workers. Their efforts have precipitated complex conflicts among management, government, and rival unions, involving counter demonstrations, occasional confrontations, firings, and some arrests.

(Concluded)

S. Korean Trade Faced with Deepening Crisis

U.S. Demands S. Korea Liberalize U.S. Goods' Import

According to reports, the U.S. government demanded last February that the south Korean authorities liberalize the import of 37 items, including semi-conductors, automobils, cigarettes and frozen beef, and lower the customs substantially.

Because of this, south Korea has become obliged to import more expensive U.S. goods.

This demand of the U.S. is, however, not a simple "notification".

In case the south Korean authorities do not accept the demand, the U.S. government says, it will take retaliatory measures against 130 south Korean items which are now exported to the US (worth 1.1 billion dollars).

It is widely known that in the "trade war" with Japan, the U.S. is planning to place restrictions on the import of Japanese goods such as steel, cars, electrical appliances and textiles. There is ample reason the U.S. has to increase its export to south Korea, threatening to take a retaliatory measure.

It is, first of all, related to the fact that the U.S. has scored big deficits in its trade balance these years.

According to data published by the U.S. authorities, U.S. deficits in its trade account was $5.9 billion in 1976, $26,6 billion in 1977 and $28.8 billion last year.

This year, deficits reached $3.09 billion in January alone

Under the circumstances where trade deficits have been snowballing like this since the present administration started and where the dollar crisis is assuming serious proportions, the U.S. plans to solve this problem of mounting deficits by forcing a heavier burden on its allies.

South Korea depends on the U.S. 24% in trade, second to Japan in percentage. The U.S., fully knowing the fact that south Korea is largely reliant on it, has made a suppressive demand. Given these circumstances, south Korea cannot but accept the demand.

Retaliatory Measures

As is shown in the "1978 country-by-country trade balance" published by the "Commercial and Industrial Ministry" of south Korea, it scores the largest trade surplus in trade with the U.S.

Although south Korea marked $3.3 billion deficits in its trade with Japan and great deficits in its trade with other countries, its trade with the U.S. was in the black—it earned $1 billion. The U.S. is an important market for south Korea to carry on its "trade promotion policy".

This year's "export target" of south Korea envisages $4.9 billion export to the U.S. ($3.3 billion export to Japan and $1.9 billion export to the Middle East)

The latest U.S. demand will make it necessary for south Korea to reduce exports to the U.S. and increase imports from the U.S. This will mean that south Korea's trade deficits this year will be more than the estimated $2.4 billion.

Following the "notification" to the south Korean authorities, the U.S. published at the end of February a "White Paper on Petroleum" which said that petroleum exports to south Korea will be substantially reduced.

The White Paper calls for 1) a large decrease in petroleum export to south Korea; 2) establishment of system to strengthen country-by-country and item-by-item imports restrictions; 3) a total stop to consume petroleum products from foreign countries. And importantly, it said that the U.S. will take retaliatory measures against countries which are dumping petroleum products on the U.S., etc.

This measure will deal an appalling blow at south Korea which is planning to boost export of petroleum products to the U.S.

This year, south Korea is planning to export to the U.S. 25% of its total output of petroleum products. Thus, in case the U.S. measure is carried into practice, south Korea will suffer great damage along with Hong Kong and Taiwan. The south Korean Tong-A Ilbo warned in its Feb. 24 issue that the export will not reach even last year's performance.

Beside, economic analysts predict south Korea's failure to hit its "export and import target for this year", pointing to the U.S. protective measures, which may kick off in other capitalist countries, including EC countries.

Growing Protectionism

The U.S.'s demand to south Korea for increased import of U.S. products and its import regulation measures against south Korean petroleum products are certain to do additional damage to the trade of south Korea which has exploited new markets by dumping goods utilizing south Korean workers' low wages and is now faced with protectionist measures in various countries.

Even according to data published by the south Korean "trade promotion corporation", 43 south Korean export items are already faced with strong import restrictions in 18 countries. It is estimated that 8 more countries including the U.S., Japan, Canada, Australia and EC countries will take measures against 10 items.

Seventy percent of the south Korean export goods are dumped at prices 20-40 lower than their international prices. The measures taken in various countries are aimed at protecting their domestic products from cheap goods from south Korea produced by cheap south Korean labour.

South Korea already recorded a $0.9 billion trade deficit as of February 24.

South Korean trade is now faced with a deepening crisis.

Household Economy Strained

The south Korean authorities on Mar. 7 raised 9.5% on an average the prices of petroleum products.

Consumer price of petroleum was raised 17.2% as a result of this price hike policy. The prices of petroleum products were also raised all along that line. They include household kerosene, industrial oil and heavy oil.

According to the hike in petroleum products' price, power rates were also increased on Mar. 9, by an average of 12% (10-59.5% hike in accodance with the amount consumed).

Through the hike of the gasoline price alone, the south Korean authorities will secure a revenue of 10-15.5 billion won this year.

The measure to increase the petroleum prices and electricity charges will greatly effect the prices of petrochemicals and various kinds of industrial products.

The Mar. 8 south Korean daily "Tong-A Ilbo" commented on this measure, saying that "the measure has dealt a blow at the household economy already strained by the continued price rises of industrial products from the beginning of this year. The household economy is now in the worst crisis since the last oil crisis."

Since the beginning of this year, the south Korean authorities have schemed to increase the prices of petroleum products under the pretext of the petroleum price hikes by oil producing states and the Iranian situation.

The south Korean authorities have carried out this measure, saying that the interests of foreign monopolies would be guaranteed properly. These foreign monopolies are reportedly said to have netted 27.9 billion won profits.

Increasing Reimbursements of Foreign Loans

According to the "Bank of Korea," last year south Korea reimbursed a total of 1,342 million dollars for repayment of foreign loans, of which the principal amounted to 780 million dollars and interest payments 562 million dollars.

The sum accounts for 2.9 percent of the "GNP" the bank said. These figures are 350 million dollars more than the 1977 figures, and up three times 1975.

It is said that south Korea will have to reimburse as much as 2,500 million dollars for repayment of interest and principal in 1981.

The increasing reimbursements are a result of Seoul's excessive inductions of foreign loans.

In the past 20 years up to the end of last year, Seoul had inducted a total of 12,211 million dollars of foreign loans. In the year 1978 alone 2,533 million dollars of foreign loans were inducted to south Korea. The figure is 700 million dollars more than the 1977 figure, and 1,000 million dollars more than the 1976 figure.

So far, south Korea has inducted foreign loans actively, whether or not short-term (one year), medium-term (1 to 3 years) or long-term (3 to 20 years) loans. Consequently, the recent rapid increase in reimbursements is a direct result of coinciding repayments of such loans. In particular the payment of interest on foreign loans, in addition to that of principals, has augmented to an extremely large value.

By the end of last year, south Korea had reimbursed a total of 5,435 million dollars in repayment of inducted foreign loans.

Of the sum, the interest payments amounted to 2,370 million dollars as against the total principal of 3,060 million dollars.

Seoul's Statistics Watered Down

Anti-government trends and social unrest have been increasing with each passing day in south Korea since the latter half of last year when the economic crisis became more acute due to the complete failure of the "high economic growth" policy—a sharp rise in prices, inactive export trade, deterioration of south Korea's international balance of payments position, mounting difficulties of living caused by low wages and unemployment, and a slump in agriculture.

The south Korean people are increasing their disaffection with the Pak Jung Hi junta which cooked up "watered-down statistics" for the sake of a fictitious "high economic growth." The "statistics" were so doctored that the December 24, 1978 issue of a government-inspired Seoul newspaper had to carry an editorial entitled "Correction of Statistics Must Be Given Top Priority," accusing the Pak Jung Hi junta of tampering with statistics so as to justify its wrong economic policy.

It is already a few years since the south Korean people and the press were critical of fictitious statistics released by the Seoul authorities in order to publicize the "high growth of the economy." The results of the "national assembly"election indicated the nation's distrust in and discontent with the economic policy pursued by the Pak Jung Hi junta—over 12 million of the 17 million eligible voters voted against the Pak Jung Hi junta or abstained from voting.

Scared by increasing anti-government trends among the south Korean people, Pak Jung Hi went the length of apologizing to the people at his New Year press conference so as to appease their discontent with the "government," saying that he was concerned about the people who were suffering from hardships and a heavy burden because of the failure to curb price rises. At the beginning of this year, the Pak Jung Hi junta stressed its policy of "economic growth" and "stabilized price", which would bring about a more serious economic crisis this year. In addition, it intends to abuse fictitious "statistics" with a view to camouflaging symptoms of a more serious economic crisis to come.

In order to exaggerate south Korea's "economic growth", the Seoul authorities dare to water down statistics on the one hand and underestimate unfavourable statistics on the other.

To cite an example of watered-down statistics, settlement of bank acounts and customs clearance of exports are advanced to the next month to make it appear as if the export target had been achieved. (The leading south Korean newspaper "Tong-A Ilbo" dated Oct. 25, 1978) Significant here is the fact that 70% of the export goods are produced by foreign-owned enterprises, with only 30% of the total export from domestic capital enterprises, according to "Induction of Foreign Capital Theory" by Kim Chan Sin, an official of the south Korean Economic Planning Board.

The foreign currency holdings of south Korea are reported to have reached 4.9 billion dollars at the end of last year, with long-term and short-term foreign loans accounting for about 50% of this total. (Hanguk Ilbo dated Aug. 17, 1977)

However much Pak Jung Hi may publicize "a sharp rise in the foreign currency reserves," it cannot persuade the south Korean people into believing in the figure, as they know south Korea had liabilities of 12.2 billion dollars as of the end of last year.

The per capita GNP is said to have stood at 1,242 dollars last year in south Korea, but it virtually reached only less than 450 dollars, when readjusted to 1970 market prices. The Dec. 17, 1978 issue of "Tong-A Ilbo" said the "high growth of the economy" is no more than fiction by the Seoul authorities," saying that per capita GNP drastically differs according to how statistics are compiled. If GNP increased, it would be only in the interest of the rich and would not help improve the livelihood of the south Korean people.

The Seoul authorities decided to import 33,270,000 sok of grains worth 1.2 billion dollars, in spite of the fact that they stated that a bumper crop visited south Korea last year. This shows that south Korea suffered a bad crop of grains last year.

The Seoul authorities also doctored economic statistics to conceal the failure of its "economic growth" plan.

A sharp rise in prices is the most serious problem of the south Korean people who are adversely affected by runaway inflation in their daily lives. The Pak junta reduces the price rise to 1/2 or 1/3 of the actual rise, because the junta is afraid that it will be sharply denounced by the people if real statistics are published.

The Pak Jung Hi junta said that consumer prices went up by 16.4% last year, when a 36.5% rise in consumer prices was noted by the Korean Chamber of Commerce and Industry, a 33% rise by the Korean Office of Labour and a 47% gain by the women consumer cooperative society. If the 16.4% rise in consumer prices were true, it would not have been necessary for Pak Jung Hi to apologize to the people at his New Year press conference.

Increased currency issue, a factor for inflation, actually stood at 37.4% last year, which was reduced to a 25.4% advance in statistics because current deposits came to be included in the standards of currency issue as from July last.

In addition, the "statistics" faked by Seoul authorities were so doctored that persons who work more than one hour a week, are not regarded as unemployed. Persons who work less than 18 hours a week are classed as jobless in advanced countries. The number of unemployed men will amount to over seven million if persons who work less than 18 hours a week are regarded as jobless in south Korea as in advanced countries.

Mt. Kumgang and Eight Fairies

While the Pyongyang Mansudae Art Troupe was on a performance tour of a European country, a foreigner happened to see its performance of the group dance "Fairies of Mt. Kumgang-san" based on a legend and said:

"...The performance of Korean artists gives an irresistible impulse to visit the land of morning calm. I have quite often heard about the beauty of Mt. Kumgang-san. Even fairies are said to have refused to ascend to heaven and lived there. This is more than enough to show its beauty. Beautiful mountains produce interesting legends about their beauty. I'll never fail to go to Korea to see Mt. Kumgang-san..."

Mt. Kumgang-san with a legend of eight fairies is widely known to the world from old times for its scenic beauty.

Even a foreign book issued 3,000 years ago writes that Mt. Kumgang-san in Korea has 12,000 peaks and a foreigner said that he would like to be reborn in Korea to see Mt. Kumgang-san.

Korea, stretching out in a queer form from the continent in eastern Asia, at the northwestern tip of the Pacific, is bounded on three sides by the sea. She abounds in limpid streams and lofty mountains and lends pleasing variety to the view according to season—spring, summer, autumn and winter.

Mt. Kumgang-san is the most beautiful in the country.

Mt. Kumgang-san is a mountain of the Taebaek range shaped like a backbone which runs along the east coast in central Korea. It covers a wide area 60 km long from north to south and 40 km wide from east to west.

It is a giant mountain of granite formed in the Mesozoic era. It had deep gorges as a result of the big dislocation movement. And in the course of a long weathering it was uncovered and broken into a beautiful and magnificent mountain looking like a delicate sculpture.

It is a great mass of numberless peaks shaped like peaks of fantastic rocks heaped and twisted. Oddly-shaped peaks, wonderful ravines, streams like the Milky Way, blue ponds and snow-white falls, rocks of myriad shapes and thick forests and luxuriant foliage and fragrant plants and grasses find themselves in splendid ensemble and lend ideal beauty.

There are over 50 peaks boasting of their ideal perfection of beauty and named after their places and unique shapes, including Piro-bong peak, the main peak of Mt. Kumgang-san 1,638 metres above the sea, Ichul-bong Peak (Sun-rising Peak), Wolchul-bong Peak (Moon-rising Peak), Chipsin-bong Peak (Standing Fairies' Peak), Mangsil-bong Peak (Standing Weeping-brush Peak). It also boasts of over 20 peaks with the wide prospect including Chomsondae and Manggundae; over 10 eddy-shaped rocks including Samson-am and Kimyon-am; 7 ridges and 6 gates; 10 or more natural caves; Kuryong Falls, one of the big falls in the East, and many other falls and ponds.

Mt. Kumgang-san is divided into three parts. The western part of the mountain with the Piro-bong Peak as watershed is called Nae-Kumgang (Inner Kumgang), which is marked by unusually beauty, the beauty of graceful and gentle gorges and valleys; the eastern part is Oe-Kumgang (Outer Kumgang) which is marked by manly beauty, the beauty of precipitous cliffs and undulating peaks, falls and ravines and fantastic rocks; and part of the mountain in the sea is called Hae-Kumgang (Sea Kumgang) marked by the beautiful seascape—islands and snow-white gulls, more refined you of those in Mt. Kumgang-san.

Gracefulness of all valleys and rocks of Mt. Kumgang-san fills wonders of nature demand the great admiration of beholders.

The Okryudong and Kuryongdong Valley are particularly famous and beautiful. The Sangsal-dam Pond located near Mt. Kuryong of eight fairies is situated there.

There is a 30-m flat rock like a white jewel, as reflective as a mirror, washed and wiped by water from time immemorial, over which flows crystal-clear water noiselessly like unrolled thin silvery silk, and under which is a deep blue pond; rainbow-gaudy face each other as if they were measuring themselves with each other, forming many wonderful views among them that your eyes hardly follow them.

This is the Okryudong Valley. Once you are there, you are fascinated by its scenic beauty. In the Kuryongdong Valley the thunder of the falling water shakes the valley and cool breeze fills it. Before you know you direct your eyes to where the thunder comes from. You can see water fall in furious torrents from the top of the steep cliff as if water were coming down from brook-Okryu-bong (Outer Kumgang) which is marked by manly beauty, the mountain and the sea, part of the mountain in the sea is called Hae-Kumgang marked by the beautiful seascape—islands and snow-white gulls, more refined you of those in Mt. Kumgang-san.

Graceful gorge below there are eight hollow-like ponds in the bright reddish rock looking like eight blue gems strung. You feel as if you could hear the fairies' laughter spread on the bottoms of the ponds if you extended your hearing. This is the famous Sangsal-dam Pond. Reddish rocks like fairies' water, solemn stillness and wall-like peaks towering high into the sky...

Indeed, it is a mysterious gorge where fairies can descend from heaven, take a bath and play. The legend of eight fairies from the guide, some sitting on rocks and the other standing to look down spellbound at the Sangsal-dam Pond:

...Once upon a time a lad of the Kumgang village saw a deer chased by a hunter and hid it while gathering firewood. At the advice of the god of Mt. Kumgang-san he concealed the wing-clothes of the most beautiful fairy of the eight who came down to the Sangsa-dam Pond to have a bath and married her and lived together. They had three children. One day his wife secretly asked him to give back her clothes and he did so, forgetting the counsel of the mountain god to return her clothes after they had four children. While he was out, his wife-fairy put on her wing-clothes and ascended to heaven, two children under her arms and one on her back. The mountain god felt sorry for the man and told him that fairies in heaven drew water from Mt. Kumgang-san every day by bucket and so he must ascend to heaven by holding on to the bucket and meet his beloved wife and children. But he flatly refused. He could not leave beautiful Mt. Kumgang-san. The fairy heard the laudable story and missed her husband and beautiful Mt. Kumgang-san and came down again and lived together happily, and since Mt. Kumgang-san is better to live in than heaven...

This legend showing the love of the people for Mt. Kumgang-san has been handed down from generation to generation to take various forms of oral literature including folk song and tale, and its content was different according to the times.

Mt. Kumgang-san abounds not only in beautiful scenery but also in precious underground resources and animals and plants. The mountain is, so to speak, a treasure house. There are 1,000 kinds of plants including *aoesun* (wild *aoesun*), *ssuk* (chair of life, and medicinal plants *kumgangtaksanmu* and *kumgangbaeksanmu*) and 400 kinds of animals—tiger, bear, deer and queer birds and so on.

Now Mt. Kumgang-san is well arranged for the cultural recreation and sightseeing of the working people. Many working people and youth and children come from all over the country to see it every year and their friends also come here.

Korean Painting

"Kingfishers on A Lotus Pond" (left), "Crab" (right)

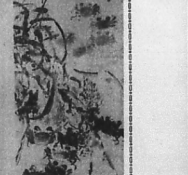
(By Chang Sung Op, the 19th century)

These two pictures are painted in a typical Korean manner.

Leaves and stems of lotus were painted very soft and kingfishers sitting on a reed are just lifelike.

The painter, Chang Sung Op, devoted his time to depicting flowers and birds as some of his works suggest his deep-set association with them.

Chang Sung Op ranks among the best painters of the closing period of the Li Dynasty.



Korean embroidery "Eight Fairies of Mt. Kumgang"

Many New Volumes Come Off Press

The Literary and Art Works Publishing House brought out many full and medium-length novels including the novel "The Worker's Family."

The novel "The Worker's Family" is a work depicting the revolutionization of a worker's family.

The long story "Sun-Rising Sea" gives a truthful and vivid depiction of the struggle of fishermen for turning fishing boats into universal and modern ones.

Among the newly-produced long stories is "Seven Gunners." It enthusiastically tells the heroic deeds of the gunners who fought to defend a height during the Motherland Fatherland Liberation War and their life after the war.

Besides, the medium-length novels "The Doctor Learns His Home," "Raid", "The March" and other novels are praised for their rich ideological and artistic contents.

The Scientific Book and Encyclopedia Publishing House recently brought out the book "History of Korean Culture."

The book "History of Korean Culture" systematically introduces the heritages of the long-standing and brilliant national culture of Korea.

The novel "Kim Chaek" gives a historical review of the Korean Academician of Sciences and the real social society, dividing it into six parts.

The book is devoted mainly to introducing the Korean science, technology, plastic arts, literature, music and dance. Typical culture in other branches is also introduced here.

Photographs, illustrations and explanations of relics are carried in the book.

The authors strictly adhered to the stand of Juche, the party spirit and the principle of historicism in editing the book and drew a distinct demarcation line between the progressive and popular culture and the backward and reactionary culture.

They also systematically reviewed the proud history of creation of the Korean people who constantly inherited and developed their fine national culture even under the harsh situation of the exploiter society.

Painful Cries Heard Across Oceans

"Mom, I Won't Go to That House!"

A month passed since then. One day an unexpected sad news came like a thunderbolt from south Korea. It was about their daughter. Her seven-year-old little daughter, Yong A, had been sold to the brothel and sold off to the United States.

She lost no time in telephone the firm concerned and requested it to send back her daughter to her. But the warm feelings of the same blood and flesh.

Tears of blood flowed down the mother's face.

What a pity! The woman could no more embrace her daughter to her heart and caress and kiss her mother's hair, having no idea of when she would meet her again.

Realizing what that meant, the girl cried out in the outer hall mixed with her little hand and burst into tears.

"Ma!"